

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claim 31 as follows:

31. (Amended) A light shielding film, comprising:  
a metal layer formed of a refractory metal in the form of a simple substance or a refractory metal compound; and  
a protection layer formed of a refractory metal or a refractory metal compound which is disposed on at least one surface of said metal layer so as to protect said metal layer from oxidation.

REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, the specification and claim 31 are amended to correct informalities. No new matter is added.

Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of the rewritten paragraph (37 C.F.R. §1.121(b)(1)(iii)) and claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Eric D. Morehouse  
Registration No. 38,565

JAO:EDM/gam

Attachment:  
Appendix

Date: August 17, 2001

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--